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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ATTY. DOCKET NO. 50169/110

In re Patent Application of

Wallace T.Y. TANG

Serial No. 09/134,147

Group Art Unit: 1765

Filed: August 14, 1998

Examiner: To be assigned

For: IN-SITU REAL-TIME MONITORING TECHNIQUE AND
APPARATUS FOR DETECTION OF THIN FILMS DURING
CHEMICAL/MECHANICAL POLISHING PLANARIZATION

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GROUP 1700

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and § 1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document

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which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

**CONCISE EXPLANATION OF
RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

The relevance of the documents are described in the present specification. An English translation of the document not readily available; however, the absence of such translation does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted document (37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609).

TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

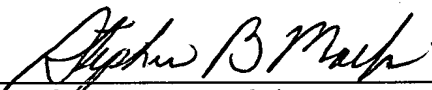
The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), before the mailing of the first Office action on the merits.

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Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialled copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

Respectfully submitted,

March 17, 1999
Date



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Should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this paper, or if a petition for extension of time is required for timely acceptance of same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0741 for any such fees; and applicant(s) hereby petition for any needed extension of time.